

The bill would be effective for decedents dying after December 31, 1995.

By Mr. ROBB:

S. 911. A bill to authorize the Secretary to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for the vessel *Sea Mistress*; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

CERTIFICATION OF DOCUMENTATION  
LEGISLATION

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I am introducing a bill today to authorize the Coast Guard to issue the appropriate endorsement for the vessel *Sea Mistress*—U.S. official number 696806—to engage in the coastwise trade. This legislation is necessary to resolve a lapse in the *Sea Mistress*'s chain of title.

The *Sea Mistress* was built in the United States in Louisville, KY, by Aluminum Cruisers, Inc. It is a 41-foot, high-speed houseboat, which is currently being refurbished in the United States for the excursion tourboat trade. In 1984, the Internal Revenue Service, seized the vessel to secure an unpaid tax debt incurred by the original owner of the vessel. This seizure has left a gap in the chain of title of the vessel. The Coast Guard has informed the owner of Occoquan Tours that if the gap is left unresolved, a coastwise endorsement cannot be issued for the vessel, even though the owner is a U.S. citizen and the vessel was built in the United States and is being refurbished locally.

The Congress passes a number of these technical bills every year. The *Sea Mistress* was part of a package of similar legislative waivers which passed the House of Representatives October of last year, but failed to be enacted prior to the end of the session. I'm introducing the bill today so that the Senate Commerce Committee may act upon it with the upcoming coastwise bill this session. •

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 912. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the eligibility of veterans for mortgage revenue bond financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

MORTGAGE REVENUE BOND FINANCING  
LEGISLATION

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I introduce a modified version of legislation I introduced in February, S. 417, which will help Wisconsin and several other States, including Oregon, Texas, Alaska, and California, extend one of our most successful veterans programs to Persian Gulf war participants and others. This legislation will amend the eligibility requirements for mortgage revenue bond financing for State veterans housing programs.

Wisconsin uses this tax-exempt bond authority to assist veterans in purchasing their first home. Under rules adopted by Congress in 1984, this program excluded from eligibility veterans who served after 1977. This bill would remove that restriction.

Wisconsin and the other eligible States simply want to maintain a principle that we in the Senate have also strived to uphold—that veterans of the Persian Gulf war should not be treated less generously than those of past wars. This bill will make that possible. •

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 913. A bill to amend section 17 of the Act of August 27, 1954 (25 U.S.C. 677p), relating to the distribution and taxation of assets and earnings, to clarify that distributions of rents and royalties derived from assets held in continued trust by the Government, and paid to the mixed-blood members of the Ute Indian tribe, their Ute Indian heirs, or Ute Indian legatees, are not subject to Federal or State taxation at the time of distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE MIXED BLOOD UTE INDIAN TAX STATUS ACT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am joined today by my colleagues, Senators INOUE, MCCAIN, and BENNETT, to introduce a bill of great importance to the mixed-blood Utes, a native population of my home State of Utah.

This limited legislation will restore the tax status of the mixed blood Ute Indians with regard to proceeds received from a trust created by the Federal Government as agreed in a settlement between the Federal Government and the Ute Tribe in 1954.

Until recently, the Federal Government has respected the intent of Congress to exempt this income from Federal and State taxation. However, in a recent tenth circuit decision the court construed the intent of Congress as allowing the tax exemption on the settlement proceeds to lapse. This bill is necessary to clarify the legislative intent of Congress and reinstate the exemption.

In my view, it was the intent of Congress in the 1954 settlement to exempt from Federal and State taxation the income derived from the assets held in continued trust by the Federal Government for, and paid to, the mixed blood Ute Indians. This has been the law for nearly four decades and should remain the law.

Historically, with regard to all settlements between the Federal Government and numerous Indian nations, the proceeds from settlements have been exempt from Federal and State taxation. The mixed blood Ute Indians have been singled out and treated differently since the tenth circuit's decision. This bill clarifies the 1954 settlement and simply restores the tax status of the mixed blood Utes.

I believe all of my Senate colleagues will recognize this legislation as both fair and necessary. I am pleased to have the support of the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee as well as my Utah colleague, Senator BENNETT. I urge all Senators to help us clarify this exemption.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 456

At the request of Mr. BRADLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KERRY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 456, a bill to improve and strengthen the child support collection system, and for other purposes.

S. 644

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Mr. SIMON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 644, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize the establishment of research corporations in the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 770

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 770, a bill to provide for the relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, and for other purposes.

S. 798

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 798, a bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to improve the provision of supplemental security income benefits, and for the purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 34

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 34, a joint resolution prohibiting funds for diplomatic relations and most-favored-nation trading status with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam unless the President certifies to Congress that Vietnamese officials are being fully cooperative and forthcoming with efforts to account for the 2,205 Americans still missing and otherwise unaccounted for from the Vietnam war, as determined on the basis of all information available to the United States Government, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 132—COM-  
MENDING CAPTAIN O'GRADY,  
AND U.S. AND NATO FORCES

Mr. DOLE (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. HELMS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. PRESSLER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. PELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. REID, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BRADLEY, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. FORD, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BUMPERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GLENN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. NICKLES) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 132

Whereas on June 2, 1995, Bosnian Serb forces using sophisticated surface to air missiles shot down a United States Air Force